E/CONF.39/D/110
SUMMARY
17 Jan.1963
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL : RUSSIAN

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON THE APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LESS DEVELOPED AREAS

SUMMARY

Agenda Item : D.1.3

USSR

INFLUENCE OF THE CULTURAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL LEVEL OF INDUSTRIAL PERSONNEL ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF PRODUCTION

By O. KOZLOVA

Papers have been contributed to the United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for the Benefit of the Less Developed Areas as working papers for that Conference. They are published as presented by the contributors, and the contents and the views expressed are those of the contributors. (See notes overleaf.)

NOTES

1. Papers selected for inclusion in General Sessions will be available at the Conference in the following official languages of the United Nations: English, French, Russian and Spanish.

2. Papers selected for inclusion in Specialized Sessions will be available at the Conference in only one of the above official languages.

3. Summaries of all papers, as submitted by contributors, will be available at the Conference in the following official languages of the United Nations: English, French, Russian and Spanish.

4. Papers and summaries will not be available for general distribution in advance of the Conference. They will be published in advance in limited quantities only for the use of delegations of participating governments and of other authorized participants. Post-Conference publication and general distribution of the Conference Proceedings will follow United Nations practices as laid down by the United Nations Publications Board.

INFLUENCE OF THE CULTURAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL LEVEL OF INDUSTRIAL PERSONNEL ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF PRODUCTION.

by O. KOZLOVA.

SUMMARY.

Technical progress in industry procedes alongside the increase of cultural and technical standards of the workers. These processes are mutually connected and depend upon each other as objective processes of social development.

The experience of the Soviet Union has convincingly proved that the cultural revolution, which began after the great October revolution, promoted the acceleration of the country's industrialization, its unusually rapid progress.

Tzarism left heavy heritage. Only 21.1 per cent of the country's population were literate. The cultural revolution begun on V.I. Lenin's initiative has lead to the fact that already in 1926 56.6 per cent of the population were literate and soon illiteracy was done away with.

Now 40 per cent of the country's workers have secondary and higher education. By 1980 they will constitute 80-85 per cent. On this base the quality of labour will change. It will acquire an every more creative nature.

Technical progress seriously influences the changes in professional make-up of workers. In our country professions of heavy manual labour have been already done away with lang ago, at the same time new professions came into being, which did not exist earlier. These are mainly professions brought about by mechanization and the automation of production.

It is of interest to note that technical progress also influences the skill of workers, making it rise. The report lists data for several years, which vividly show how the share of low skilled workers is decreasing and the share of workers with higher skill is increasing.

Technical progress also influences the labour functions of workers, gradually raising the share of mental labour and decreasing the work connected with manual labour. For example, a steel-worker under conditions of considerable automation of technological processes spends the bulk of his working time in analysing the course of the technological process, to control it on the basis of the decisions taken with the help of automatic instruments. Functions of direct fulfilment of labour operations constitute only 15% of the working time. Under modern conditions the functions of a steel-worker greatly differ from those which he recently carried out under conditions of insufficient mechanization and aut automation of the technological process. Such changes are taking place in all professions in the Soviet Union.

Great changes are taking place in the content of the labour of the workers engaged in automatized production. Here knowledge is of special need to the worker, because his manual labour to a certain degree consists in setting-up and repairing the equipment. But even here great knowledge is required, because the equipment is complicated. In other respects the activity of the worker engaged in automatized production consists mainly in mental activity and requires great knowledge.

The Soviet social system is based on the participation of the whole country's population in management of the country and its production. The higher its culture, the broader develops the spontaneous activity of workers in production in the form of rationalization and innovation, socialist emulation, participation in the work of bureaus and groups of economic analysis and in many other organizations, which are formed at enterprises by the workers of the Soviet Union.

The growth of culture increases the activity of workers, and the economic effectiveness of their participation in the management of production.

The study of the material has proved that the cultural standard and technical skill of workers is directly connected with the level of productivity of their labour and it rises together with the growth of culture of the population. This takes place because a better educated worker can more effectively employ the machine, better organizes his work, his working place. He more often rationalizes his work.

Technical progress leads to the necessity to change the training of specialist. In the Soviet Union trends for the integration of professions on the basis of growth of universality in a variety of specialities have begun to show.

S - 489 E - Jan.1963 - 1,600